(b) if so, the details of the strategy adopted and the number of infiltrators nabbed during the last six months; and

(c) to what extent the new strategy would strengthen the position at borders to check any kind of infiltrations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (c) Keeping in view the unabated efforts of Pakistan to infiltrate trained and armed terrorists across the LOO Border into Jammu and Kashmir, continuous vigilance is being maintained by the Security Forces to check and contain the same. Various arrangements have been made for this purpose, including intensive patrolling, provision and use of surveillance equipments, including night vision devices etc., deployment of forces in the vulnerable areas both on the LOOBorder and in the hinterland, setting up of Village Defence Committee in some of the sensitive regions near the border, and close and continuous coordination between all concerned security and intelligence agencies, etc. The arrangements are being kept under regular review to deal with the situation and development on a continuing basis.

According to available information, 68 infiltrators were killed and 267 were apprehended by the BSF troops in the area of their deployment on the border during the last six months.

Handing over of ONGC oil fields to private consortia

1848. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that certain oil fields discovered and developed by the ONGC have been handed over to private consortia without any compensation to the ONGC, resulting in huge loss to the ONGC;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these oil fields have been handed over to the private consortia at the behest of the World Bank;

(c) if so, the details thereof, stating the loss incurred by the ONGC as a result thereof; and

(d) the reasons for handing over these oil fields to private consortia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) Discovered oil fields have been offered for development by joint ventures in pursuance of a policy decision of the Government. These fields have been awarded through international competitive bidding. In the bids, signature and production bonuses are biddable items and proceeds on these accounts go to ONGC. In addition, wherever the ecnomics of the projects so permits, there has been separate compensation for past costs incurred to ONGC.

(d) The reasons for offering these fields for private participation include:

(i) Marginal economics of some of the fields.

(ii) Low reserves of the small fields offered.

(iii) To augment total investment in exploration and development.

(iv) To help augment the oil/gas production by way of quickly putting these fields on production.

(v) For the application of enhanced oil recovery processes.

(vi) To induct the latest managerial and technological practices.

भूकंपीय प्रयोगशाला स्थापित किया जाना

1849. **श्री चिमनभाई हरिभाई शुक्ल:** क्या विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या महाराष्ट्र सरकार और अन्य राज्य सरकारों ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से विभिन्न राज्यों में भूकम्प की